

# HUNTER BRONX SITE PROPOSED FOR UNO; SHUSTER PROTESTS

**President Calls Idea Disastrous  
With Colleges Overcrowded  
—Tead Hints Opposition**

**LYONS FINDS PLAN 'IDEAL'**

**Whalen Leads Inspection Tour  
—Campus Impresses Briton  
Seeking Interim Quarters**

**By MORRIS L. KAPLAN**

A possibility that the United Nations Organization might seek the Hunter College campus in the Bronx for its temporary home evoked a storm of protest yesterday from education officials. Borough President James J. Lyons, however, expressed the hope that the buildings would be used by the security organization.

Dissension arose as a result of a suggestion from Mr. Lyons to Grover A. Whalen, chairman of Mayor O'Dwyer's UNO committee, that the college buildings were "ideal for the purpose." It encountered vociferous opposition after Mr. Lyons and Mr. Whalen had accompanied UNO officials on an inspection tour of the college. The visitors were "tremendously impressed."

Dr. George N. Shuster, president of Hunter, described the idea as "disastrous." At his country home in Stamford, Conn., he said he had had advance notice of the matter, but declined to name his informant.

"We are, of course, opposed to that strongly," he said. "Our educational facilities are strained to the utmost now, and under those circumstances the taking out of circulation of an educational unit as large as the Bronx unit would be nothing short of disastrous."

Governor Dewey has called a meeting of all college presidents in the State, Dr. Shuster noted, to confer on the "crucial" problem of finding enough room for an estimated 20,000 war veterans who wish to resume their education by Sept. 1.

The Navy, which occupied the Hunter branch in the Bronx during the war as a training camp for Waves, decommissioned those quarters last week and is reconditioning the four main buildings. This work should be completed by Sept. 1, Dr. Shuster said, when the "educational load" will be heavy.

Dr. Ordway Tead, chairman of the Board of Higher Education, indicated his opposition to the use of Hunter's buildings by the UNO "unless the city provides equivalent facilities, and that you don't find growing on every bush, you

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know." He presumed the Board of Estimate would decide the issue, he added, "since legally the city is required to give us space to do a job, according to State educational law."

Dr. Tead said he had not been approached officially on the matter and that he understood that the UNO's site-hunting was still in the "exploratory" stage.

After a tour of possible interim sites, David K. Owen of Britain, executive assistant to Secretary-General Trygve Lie of Norway, said he would report to Mr. Lie in London by Friday on a building selection for the Security Council and the Secretariat. He said he would see Mayor O'Dwyer after visits to the Whitelaw Reid mansion, 451 Madison Avenue, the Empire State Building and the Sperry plant at Lake Success, Nassau County, all of which are under consideration.

## No Offer Made

"We were tremendously impressed by Hunter College facilities," he said, "and we shall certainly take that into account." He emphasized, however, that no offer had been made and that he had visited the college at the invitation of Mr. Lyons.

"I think it's an ideal place," the Borough President declared. "The Bronx is a cultural community, the borough of universities, the Hall of Fame, the home of champions. Most important, it has fine and tolerant people."

On Dr. Shuster's objections, he commented: "I don't blame him; after all, he's an educator and he should be concerned about his school. However, I am not concerned about Shuster."

Taking note of Dr. Tead's doubts, Mr. Lyons said: "After all, the

buildings haven't been used by the college since the beginning of the war, so they can stay out a little longer." He indicated that even a new building was "possible" for the housing of Hunter students.

Mr. Lyons acknowledged that it was at his suggestion that visits were made to Hunter and the Kingsbridge Armory. He said he had telephoned Mr. Whalen earlier this week and that "Whalen thought it was a good idea and the date was set for today."

The Bronx annex of Hunter, whose main building is at 695 Park Avenue, Manhattan, consists of four ivy-covered buildings, Gillet and Davis Halls, Students' Hall and the gymnasium. Dr. Shuster said that before the war it was attended by 2,500 students. There is a new tennis court and space equivalent to about six city blocks. Each academic structure has five floors, the Students Building has four and the gymnasium three.

Yesterday's inspection included the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's annex at Twenty-fourth Street and Madison Avenue, which Mr. Owen described as promising for "temporary" accommodations until a more suitable site could be found in the city. The

Kingsbridge Armory is "too large" for an assembly hall, he said.

Others who made the tour yesterday included A. H. Feller, general counsel to Mr. Lie; John Ross, deputy director of the State Department's Office of Special Political Affairs; Geoffrey Wilson of Britain, Howard R. Huston, American adviser on interim facilities, and Mary K. Saunders, secretary to Mr. Owen.

Mr. Owen said that twenty-five members of the Secretariat would arrive today at La Guardia Field by Air Transport Command plane. It will be the advance guard of an eventual 100.

The planning commission, detailed to inspect the proposed permanent site of the UNO in the Westchester-Fairfield area, will arrive in "two or three weeks," he said.

A resolution adopted in London by the General Assembly and made public here yesterday clarifies the UNO's policy on the selection of a permanent site. It reads as follows:

"Considering that appropriate assurances should be given to the residents and neighbors of the site finally chosen as the permanent headquarters of the United Nations in the United States, to the effect that this selection will not cause

injustice to be done to them, it is resolved that the United Nations shall give all due and friendly consideration to any problems that may arise with the possible displacement of residents, or with tax, revenue and other problems affecting the localities involved, when a final decision is taken with regard to the exact site of the permanent headquarters of the United Nations."